

**Developmental Disabilities Services  
State Program Standing Committee  
February 20, 2014  
Comfort Inn & Suites, Berlin**

**Meeting commenced: 9:40 am**

**Members attended:** Emily Anderson, Anne Bakeman, Max Barrows, Linda Berger, Julie Cunningham, Bethany Drum, Joe Greenwald, Nicole LeBlanc, Kyle Moriarty, Edwin Place, Barbara Prine, Theresa Wood, and Susan Yuan

**Members absent:** Greg Mairs, and Connie Woodberry

**Staff & guests attended:** Rich Atkinson, June Bascom, Camille George, Lisa Martel, Bart Mairs, Kirsten Murphy, Chris O'Neill, Tina Royer, Karen Schwartz, and Karen Wynkoop

**Meeting Minutes:** The January meeting minutes were reviewed. Anne Bakeman motioned to approve the minutes, Bethany Drum seconded the motion. Minutes were approved.

**Updates to agenda:** Theresa would like legislative updates, updates around the DS Task Force, and IFS.

**Staffing update:**

- OPG - one vacancy left to fill
- Renee Begnoche has been hired to fill an OPG role.

**IFS Update:** Agency leased space @ 329 Harvest Lane. The staff working on role out of IFS will be working out of that building. It is undecided if Diane Bugbee will work part time at 94 Harvest Ln, and part time at 329 Hurricane Ln. There is currently no update on the SIM grant. Theresa Wood asked that Kathleen Brown come to discuss the local provider prospective regarding IFS role out. Barb Prine would like Greg Mairs, Clare McFadden, Kathleen Brown & Melissa Bailey to talk about this at a future meeting. Theresa asked about the role of SSA's in the future of IFS given that any allocation of funding is totally dependent on the DA in the area. This has the impact of restricting choice of provider which is not good.

**DS Imagine the Future Task Force:** Theresa Wood gave an update on the Task Force. It is felt that the Task Force hasn't accomplished anything thus far. The next meeting may be more on track. Karen Schwartz feels that the Task Force isn't being taken seriously. At the February 21<sup>st</sup> meeting, the discussion will be "Health Care Reform" – Accountable Care Organization (ACO). At the March meeting, the discussion will be "Who is it that we should serve in the future". What age groups, what types of needs? There will be a check in in June as to the progress of the Task Force.

**Legislative Updates:**

- H728 proposing changes to the DD Act. Some changes are appropriate; other aspects would require greater legislative oversight of the department. The bill currently includes greater legislative oversight of the System of Care Plan process. DAIL does not support this.
- Proposed striking of language setting priorities promoting the principles, and ensuring quality.
- Representative Donahue felt too big of a change to make this year. Look at what the expectations are.
- S271 proposal would re-organize - bringing together the Department of Mental Health, Developmental Disabilities Services, Traumatic Brain Injury, and Office of Alcohol into a new department.

- S220 – makes changes to create strong work environment, and add protections for workers. Looking at how this might impact the home providers, and family care providers.
- H555 – Is a bill pertaining to people with TBI. They would like to add language to the existing bill: “Traumatic Brain Injury” – found not competent to stand trial. They would then be committed to the Department of Mental Health and hospitalized. The administration does not support this but does agree there is a problem.
- H301 – Possible link to the Self Determination Alliance. DAIL has not been asked to attend testimony on this. It is a bill that would create a task force to study work force across the board. DAIL would recommend that it go through the work force group of health care reform.

**FY15 Budget:** Commissioner Susan Wehry provided an update. The budget is based on caseload projections. The JFO approved the budget around \$8 million. If there is motive behind H728, she would like to hear it. How can we get the SOCP to achieve what is in H728? Susan took questions from the group.

**Re-designation:** The re-designation for Families First was reviewed. Discussion was held and the re-designation was approved.

**Future agenda items:**

Ask Commissioner Wehry to return

Have Theresa do ACO presentation at the March meeting

Ask Clare McFadden, Melissa Bailey, Greg Mairs & Kathy Brown to speak about IFS at a future meeting.